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MEMORANDUM

MONROE COUNTY PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

We strive to be caring, professional and fair

To: Monroe County Planning Commission

From: Emily Schemper, Sr. Director of Planning and Environmental Resources

Tiffany Stankiewicz, Development Administrator

Date: February 10, 2021

Subject: Non-Residential Floor Area Evaluation Report (NROGO)

Quarter 2, Year 29 (October 13, 2020 through January 12, 2021)

Meeting Date: February 24, 2021

I BACKGROUND:

Monroe County Code, Chapter 138, Article III (Sections 138-47 through 138-55) establishes the Nonresidential Rate of Growth Ordinance (NROGO) and the procedure for allocating the nonresidential floor area.

On June 9, 2006, the Federal Fish and Wildlife Service Incidental Take Permit (ITP) #TE083411-0 was issued to 1) Monroe County, Growth Management Division, 2) Florida Department of Transportation, and 3) Florida Department of Community Affairs for the Threatened and Endangered Species Incidental Take Permit (ITP) since the permittees have defined the geographic area covered by their Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) on Big Pine/No Name Key. The ITP requires the Permittees to ensure that the take of the covered species is minimized and mitigated. The Permittees are responsible for meeting the terms and conditions of the ITP and implementing the HCP.

On March 15, 2006, the Board of County Commissioners adopted Ordinance 011-2006 to implement the Tier System, and subsequently, it was challenged by Florida Keys Citizens Coalition, Inc. and Protect Key West and the Florida Keys, Inc., d/b/a Last Stand. Thomas G. Pelham, Secretary, Department of Community Affairs signed the final order (Final Order DCA07-GM166 for DOAH Case No. 06-2449GM) deciding the challenge on September 26, 2007.

The Tier System made changes such as separate districts for allocation distribution, basis of scoring applications, and administrative relief. The districts are: A) Lower/Upper Keys and B) Big Pine/No Name Key for NROGO.

On September 21, 2012, the BOCC adopted Ordinance #021-2012, revising the NROGO allocation scoring system regarding land dedications and Tier III properties containing wetlands adjacent to Tier 1 properties. The ordinance became effective on December 31, 2012.

On April 17, 2013, the BOCC adopted Ordinance #019-2013, and Ordinance #020-2013, revising the NROGO allocation system. The ordinance became effective on July 13, 2013. The amendments adopted in April 2013, simplified the NROGO permit allocation system process by:

- allowing applicants to acquire NROGO awards in less time (up to 4 times a year vs. up to 2 times a year);
- increasing the maximum amount of de minimis expansion from 100 sq. ft. to 1,000 sq. ft. for new and existing nonresidential developments with an allocation awarded by building permit (no competition);
- commencing NROGO Year 22 (July 13, 2013), distributing the annual NROGO allocation proportionately to each of the three ROGO subareas: Upper (239 sq. ft. X 96 DU = 22,944 sq. ft.); Lower (239 sq. ft. X 91 DU = 21,749 sq. ft.); and Big Pine/No Name (239 sq. ft. X 10 DU = 2,390 sq. ft.);
- increasing the maximum amount of a NROGO allocation from 2,500 sq. ft. to 10,000 sq. ft. per allocation period; and
- creating NROGO bank accounts to establish a codified mechanism to allocate nonresidential floor area that went unused or unallocated in previous years or which has been reclaimed.

On April 13, 2016, the BOCC adopted Ordinance #005-2016, Monroe County Year 2030 Comprehensive Plan. The ordinance became effective on June 20, 2016. The updated Comprehensive Plan in part revises NROGO.

On November 22, 2016, the BOCC adopted Ordinance #030-2016, to satisfy a Stipulated Settlement Agreement regarding BOCC Ordinance 006-2016, which amended the Monroe County Land Development Code (LDC) to be consistent with the Monroe County Year 2030 Comprehensive Plan. The ordinance and LDC became effective on February 3, 2017.

II. AMOUNT OF FLOOR AREA AVAILABLE

Pursuant to Monroe County Code Section 138-53(e)(13), the Planning and Environmental Resources Department is providing a notification of the NROGO account balances. The balances are as follows:

NROGO Year 29 Balances Available for Quarter 2							
	ANNUAL NROGO	NROGO BANK					
NROGO Year 29 Balances	Year 29 Annual Allocation Amount	Subarea Bank Accounts (rollover from Year 28)	Year 29 General (Joint) Bank Total				
Big Pine Key and No Name Key subarea	2,390 SF	19,991	N/A				
Upper Keys subarea	22,944 SF	44 205	668,931 SF*				
Lower Keys subarea	21,749 SF	44,395					
Totals	47,083 SF	64,386	668,931 SF*				

^{*}The YR 29 Bank Totals includes 20,000 SF in reserves for the Upper and Lower Key. (Ord. 020-2013) (Ord. 030-2016)

Please note, for the table above, square footage for de-minimis applications that are awarded through issuance of a building permit (no public hearing required) will be deducted from the annual NROGO allocation or the NROGO bank.

III. AMOUNT OF FLOOR AREA REQUESTED:

There is one applicant requesting commercial floor area for the Year 29 Quarter 2 allocation.

		NROGO YEAR 29				
NROGO YEAR 29 ANNUAL SQUARE FOOTAGE					BANK	
	Lower Keys Subarea	Upper Keys Subarea	Big Pine/No Name Keys Subarea		Lower/Upper Bank	Big Pine /No Name Bank
Quarter 1: Square Feet Allocation Available	21,749	22,944	2,390		668,931	19,991
Quarter 1: Square Feet Requested	0	0	0		0	0
Quarter 2: Square Feet Allocation Available	21,749	22,944	2,390		668,931	19,991
Quarter 2: Square Feet Requested	0	0	0		2,099	0

^{**} Includes NROGO SF from expired allocation awards.

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IV. EVALUATION AND RANKING:

For the annual NROGO allocation, there were no applicants in the Upper Keys subarea with a request within the SF available for Quarter 2. There were no applicants in the Lower Keys subarea and no applicants in the Big Pine/No Name Key subarea for Quarter 2. For the NROGO bank, there was one applicant for Quarter 2.

V. RECOMMENDATION:

Based on the preceding information, the Sr. Director Planning & Environmental Resources recommends the following NROGO allocations of Year 29 Quarter 2 be awarded:

NROGO YEAR 29 ANNUAL SQUARE FOOTAGE

Lower Keys Subarea

• None

Upper Keys Subarea

None

Big Pine Key and No Name Key Subarea

None

NROGO BANK YEAR 29 SQUARE FOOTAGE

Lower/Upper Keys

• Permit number 20101367 for Bella Construction of Key West, Inc ranked number one (1), requesting a total of 2,099 square feet of floor area

Big Pine Key and No Name Key Subarea

• None